

Senate Okays Raborn As Director of CIA

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WASHINGTON (UPI). — The

Senate Thursday confirmed the nomination of William F. (Red) Raborn Jr., the retired admiral who masterminded development of the Polaris missile system, as new director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The Senate acted by voice vote, without dissent, less than an hour after its armed services committee approved Raborn as successor to retiring John A. McCone.

Also unanimously approved by the committee was Richard M. Helms, 52, a veteran cloak-and-dagger man, to be Raborn's deputy director. Helms is a former newspaperman who began his intelligence career in 1943 in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS).

NO ACTION

The Senate did not act immediately on Helms' nomination.

Raborn, a vice president of the Aerojet General Corp., Pasadena, Calif., since his retirement as a vice admiral in September, 1963, told the Armed Services Committee he would keep it fully informed on CIA matters.

There was no discussion of CIA policies during a brief public committee hearing, although Sen. Jack Miller, R-Iowa, asked Raborn his views on CIA rela-

tions with U.S. ambassadors overseas.

Miller then held a whispered conversation with Sen. John C. Stennis, D-Miss., acting committee chairman, and announced he would not pursue the question.

ALL OK

After a private session, Stennis said Raborn's answers were "completely satisfactory." Miller agreed and explained he had been concerned about reports of friction between CIA officials and ambassadors in such areas as South Viet Nam.

As CIA director, Raborn also will be chairman of the U.S. Intelligence Board, which evaluates all intelligence reports — from the military as well as the CIA. Thus he will be chief of the entire U.S. intelligence effort upon which the government relies for its highest security decisions.

The stocky, good-humored Raborn, 59, is a native of Deatur, Tex., and a 1928 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

SILVER STAR

He began his naval career as a sea-going officer and naval aviator, earning a Silver Star for "conspicuous gallantry" as executive officer of the carrier Hancock during an enemy kamikaze attack off the coast of Japan in 1945.